

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached "Replacement Sheets" of drawings includes changes to Figures 4 and 5. The attached "Replacement Sheets," which includes Figures 2, 4 and 5, replace the original sheets including Figures 2, 4 and 5.

Attachment: Replacement Sheets

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of this response. Claims 1-16, 18, 19, 21-24, 26 and 27 are currently pending in the present application. By way of this response, claims 17, 20, and 25 have been cancelled and claims 1, 16, 19, 22, and 26 and Figures 4 and 5 have been amended. Claims 1, 16, 19, and 22 are independent claims.

PRIORITY DOCUMENTS

Applicants acknowledge and thank the Examiner for acknowledging Applicants' claim for priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119, and further thank the Examiner for acknowledging receipt of the certified foreign priority document (European Patent Application No. 02023222.9, filed October 16, 2002 in the European Patent Office), as shown in the Office Action Summary dated April 21, 2005.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Applicants acknowledge and thank the Examiner for the careful consideration of the references cited in the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed October 16, 2003, as indicated by the Examiner's initials and signature on the form PTO-1449.

DRAWING OBJECTIONS

On page 2 of the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner objects to the drawings as allegedly lacking Prior Art labels. More specifically, the Examiner submits that Figures 4 and 5 should be labeled "PRIOR ART", allegedly because only that which is old is illustrated.

Applicants have filed herewith drawing Replacement Sheets 1 and 2, which include amended Figures 4 and 5. The amendments to Figures 4 and 5 take into account the suggestions and comments made by the Examiner on

page 2 of the outstanding Office Action. As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the above drawing objection.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1 through 4, 7-10, and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by GB 443,017 (hereinafter referred to as "GB"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

On page 3 of the April 28, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner relies upon tubes 28 and 29 of GB for allegedly teaching the "internal conductor", and "external conductor tube", respectively, as set forth in claim 1, for example. However, Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's conclusion.

Figure 2 (of GB) illustrates a water-cooled arrangement including a coaxial lead-in conductor through which currents from an electrical apparatus (not shown, but positioned above) flow. The coaxial lead-in conductor comprises a pair of tubes 28 and 29 welded together at each end over both of which the current from the electrical apparatus flows.

However, while the current from the electrical apparatus may arguably travel through tubes 28 and 29 in parallel, the path of the current flowing through the tubes 28 and 29 does not "change between the external conductor tube and the internal conductor tube at least once," as set forth in claim 1, for example. In contrast, at most, the current originates from the electrical apparatus (i.e., welded tubes 28 and 29), arguably travels in parallel over tubes 28 and 29, and returns to a common conductor (i.e., ground) at another end of the welded tubes 28 and 29. Thus, the "current paths" do not "change between the external conductor tube and the internal conductor tube at least once," as set forth in claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that GB fails to teach or suggest all of the limitations set forth in claim 1.

Further, with regard to claims 2-15, Applicants respectfully submit that these dependent claims are also allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to independent claim 1.

With regard to independent claims 16, 19, and 22, Applicants respectfully submit that these independent claims are also allowable for at least reasons somewhat similar to those set forth above with regard to claim 1. With regard to dependent claims 18, 19, 21, 23, 24, 26 and 27, Applicants respectfully submit that these depending claims are also allowable for at least the reasons discussed above with regard to independent claims 16, 19, and 22.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the above rejection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 6 and 14-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over GB in view of Applicants Own Admitted Prior Art (hereinafter referred to as "AOAPA"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

On page 6 of the Office Action, the Examiner correctly recognizes that GB fails to teach or suggest limitations set forth in claims 6, 14, and/or 15, and relies upon AOAPA for allegedly teaching these limitations. However, Applicants respectfully submit that even assuming *arguendo* that AOAPA could be combined with GB (which Applicants do not admit), Applicants respectfully submit that AOAPA would still fail to at least make up for the deficiencies of GB with respect to independent claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that GB and/or AOAPA, neither alone nor in combination, teach or suggest all of the limitations set forth in claims 6, 14, and/or 15.

As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the above rejection.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 19-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over AOAPA in view of GB. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

On page 7 of the outstanding Office Action, Examiner correctly recognizes that AOAPA fails to teach or suggest "current paths ... adapted to change at least once between the external conductor tube and the internal conductor tube," as now set forth in claims 19 and 22, and relies upon GB for allegedly teaching these limitations.

However, as discussed above with regard to claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that GB fails to teach or suggest "current paths...adapted to change between the external conductor tube and the internal conductor tube at least once", as now set forth in independent claims 19 and 22. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that even assuming *arguendo* that AOAPA could be combined with GB (which Applicants do not admit), Applicants respectfully submit that GB would still fail to make up for the deficiencies of AOAPA, as recognized by the Examiner, with regard to claim 1.

As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the above rejection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, reconsideration of the present application and allowance of all claims currently pending is respectfully requested.

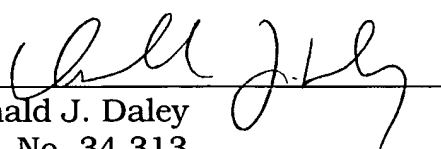
If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone Andrew M. Waxman, Reg. No. 56,007, at the number of the undersigned listed below.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-0750 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

HARNESS, DICKY and PIERCE, PLC

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